

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4723

1. Name

Historic 1101-1127 North Bradford Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 1101-1127 North Bradford Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category
☐ district
☒ building(s)
☐ structure
☐ site
☐ object

Ownership
☐ public
☒ private
☐ both
Public Acquisition
☐ in process
☐ being considered
☐ not applicable

Status
☒ occupied
☐ unoccupied
☐ work in progress
Accessible
☒ yes: restricted
☐ yes: unrestricted
☐ no

Present Use
☐ agriculture
☐ commercial
☐ educational
☐ entertainment
☐ government
☐ industrial
☐ military
☐ museum
☐ park
☒ private residence
☐ religious
☐ scientific
☐ transportation
☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
y, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
 date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of fourteen two-story, two-bay wide vernacular Renaissance Revival-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal cornices were built in 1907 by Joseph Bishop, a small-scale builder of working class houses in East Baltimore, who also built similar houses on both sides of the 1200 block of North Bradford St. All of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were originally painted a dark red, with the basement area painted white to imitate the marble basements of more expensive houses.

After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal became the predominant material used. By the early years of the 20th century, the most popular form of sheet metal cornice sported ball finials and often classical motifs like swags pressed into the frieze area. Generally, only main street two story houses had decorated friezes—the builder saved money on his small street versions by eliminating them. Likewise, while the main street houses in this style would have marble basements, stringers, lintels, and steps, builders used no marble at all on their small street versions, painting the basements white instead. Main street houses would have stained glass transoms over both the door and the wide first floor window; on the small streets builders offered stained glass only in the door transom.

The houses are two stories in height, 11'5" wide (11'6" for the two end houses) and occupy lots 55' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in a narrow, brown Roman brick, set in running bond. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the front and rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a sheet metal cornice consisting of a deeply projecting crown molding set above a row of dentils and a frieze area created by two rows of stretcher bricks set above two rows of progressively recessed stretchers. The cornice is framed by two end brackets, whose rosette-decorated cap rises above the roof line. The lower edge of the bracket is marked by a distinct trefoil.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers, with plain tympanums. The sills are wood. As is common in houses of this period, the first floor window is wider than those above. All windows are filled with 1/1 sash. Doorways had single-light transoms but all openings are boarded over. No original doors remain. The houses sit on very high basements lit by a 1/1 sash, set beneath a double-header segmental arch, and with their own basement entrance. Each front door (is reached by eight or nine metal steps set parallel with the façade.

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8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitar	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportat	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: spec	

Specific dates 1907

Builder/Architect Joseph Bishop

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing the very last type of small street houses to be built, in the period c. 1905 – 1909, when a new city ordinance outlawed building houses on streets less than 40' wide. They are also significant for being built in the newly fashionable brown, Roman brick, that never needed painting. The houses were built by Joseph Bishop, a local builder who also built similar houses on both sides of the 1200 block of Bradford St., according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of two-story house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900.

He sold houses to a mix of owner-occupants and to investors interested in obtaining rental income. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

Houses in this block of Bradford St. sold to mainly Bohemian owner-occupants who received their mortgages from the several Bohemian community-based building and loans.

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9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

Name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

city, town Baltimore

date June 2000

telephone

state & zip code Maryland 212

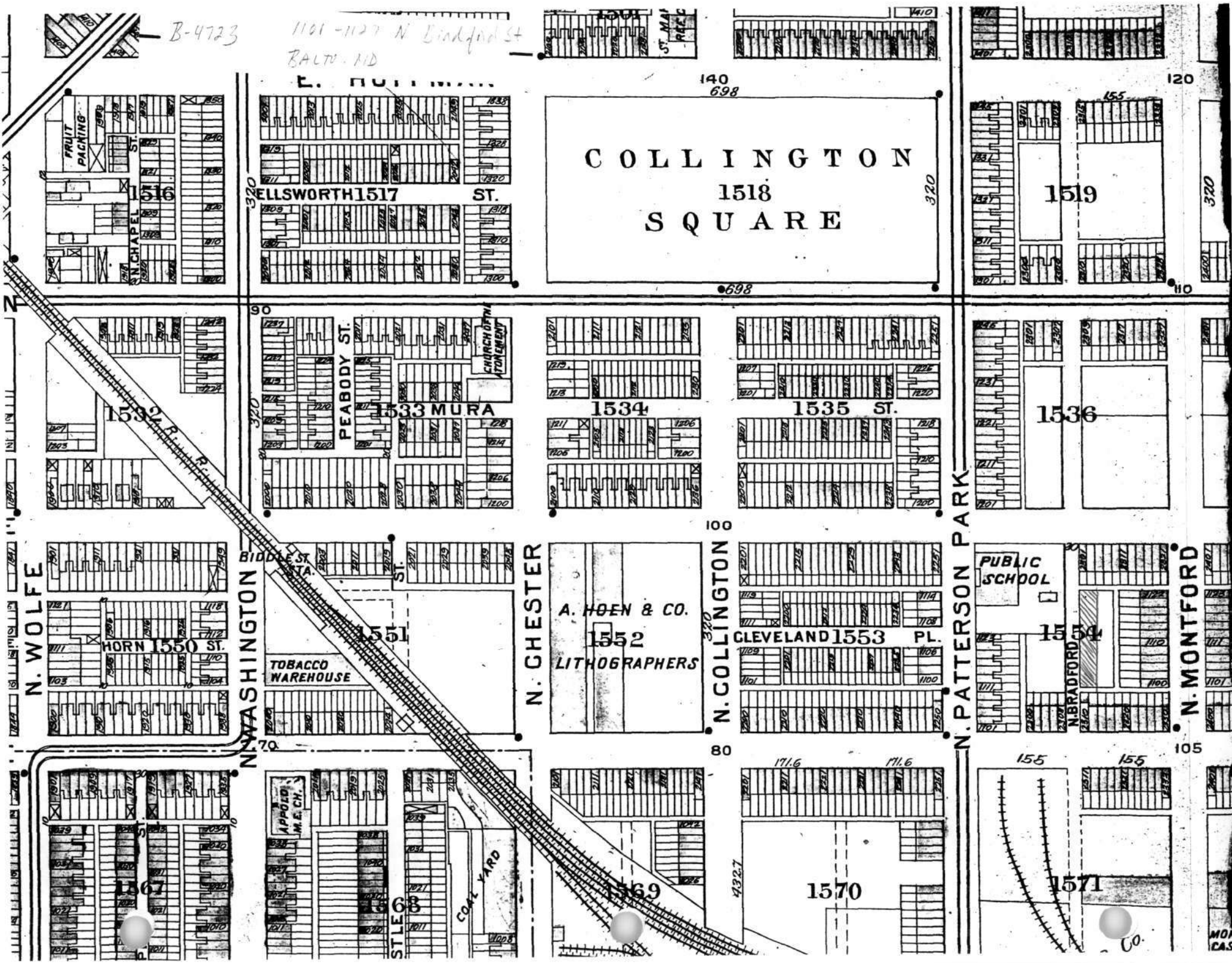
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of rights.

Return to:
DHCP/DHCD
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4723

1101-1127 N. Broadway St
BALTO. MD



COLLINGTON
1518
SQUARE

N. WOLFE

N. WASHINGTON

N. CHESTER

N. COLLINGTON

N. PATTERSON PARK

N. MONTFORD

HORN 1550 ST.

A. HOEN & CO.
1552
LITHOGRAPHERS

CLEVELAND 1553 PL.

PUBLIC SCHOOL

1554

TOBACCO WAREHOUSE

APPROX. M.E. CH.

COAL YARD

1570

1571

CO.

MON. CAST

B-4723
1101-1127 N. Bradford Street
Block 1554, Lots 021-034
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.

All but 1105-1111 demolished





PRIVATE
PROPERTY

NO TRESPASSING
NO LOITERING

IF STOPPED
CALL 906-426

1119

SLIM
REDS
LIL

1117 Bradford
W-9

B-4723

1117 N. Bradford St.

BALTO, MD

W. Nield

7/96

MD 54740

06:00

06:00

06:00

06:00